Charles Town Feby 27th 1780

Hon.d Sir.

Yours of yesterday we have recieved and after having carefully considered and attended to the several requisitions therein contained, beg leave to return the following Answers.

At low water there is eleven feet in the Channel from the bar to five fathom hole, five fathom hole is three miles from the bar, where you'll have three fathoms at low water, they can not be anchored untill they are at that distance from the bar, in the place where the ships can be anchored, the bar, can not be covered or annoyed.

Off the North breaker head, where the ships can be anchored to moor them, that they may swing in safety, they will lay within one mile and an half of the shore.

If any batteries are thrown up to act in conjunction with the ships, and the enemy's force, should be so much superior, as to cause a retreat to be neceſsary, it will be impoſsible for us to cover, or take them off.

Our opinion is that the ships can do the most effectual service for the defence and security of the Town to act in conjunction with Fort Moultrie, which we think will best answer the purpose of the ships being sent here, and consequently if so, the views of Congreſs.

Our reasons are that the Channel is so narrow between the Fort, and the middle ground, that they may be moored so as to rake the Channel, and prevent the enemy's troops being landed to annoy the Fort.

The enemy we apprehend may be prevented from sounding, and bueoying the bar, by the Brig General Lincoln, the State's Brig Notre Dame, and other small Veſsells, that may be occasionally employed for that Purpose.

We are with Respect,
your honor's,
Most Obed.t & humd. Serv.ts

Abraham Whipple

Hoysteed Hacker

Saml Tucker

Thom Simpson

John Farron

Luke Swain

John his X mark Whitaker

Stephen Duvall

Thos Tucker

} Pilots. —

[illegible]

RW 962(1)

The Hon.ble

Maj.r Gen.l Lincoln

Charles Town

Commo. Whipple
27th Feb 1780

RW 962(2) MS. Ch. C. 4. 48-49